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History Line

A History and Cultural Resources Newsletter

Navaho youth herding sheep on the Kaibab National Forest (Arizona) in 1946. The round sack holds a watermelon. (U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service photograph.)

History Line—Spring–Summer 1989

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Editor: **Terry West, WO History Section**

Editor's Remarks

Program Farewell—*Terry West, Washington Office*

This may be my last issue of *History Line*. Because of the recent reorganization of the Washington Office's Public Affairs Office (PAO), I may no longer be involved with the History Section. In the tradition of farewell remarks, I have used this forum to review the history of the program.

From a review of the records in the history section files, the program originated on March 26, 1968, when Chief Edward Cliff and his staff approved the creation of an ad hoc history committee in the Washington Office. The genesis of this group resulted no doubt from informal discussions among Washington Office staff with a shared interest in history. Perhaps this concern was first stated in a memorandum to Clare Hendee (Deputy Chief of Information and Education) from Paul Kihlmire (Chief of Visitor Information Services) dated March 29, 1968. In his note, Kihlmire states:

> The gathering, writing, and recording of the Forest Service history as an organization and of Forest Service units has been hit and miss for sixty years. No official system or assigned responsibility exists to assure accurate historical accounting. Efforts to date have been limited to the personal interest of Forest Officers. . . . Employees and retirees with vital knowledge . . . are a rapidly vanishing source.

The report proposed the employment of a Service-wide coordinator and official historian. The first task of the historian would be to develop a program "to do the job as a work tool for the field." The need for field participation "at all levels" was emphasized. It concluded with the observation that a program was needed because "there is a constant demand for historical information from the Forest Service and about Forest Service programs; many forest visitors want to know the things of the past which relate to the present."

In April 1968, Deputy Chief John McGuire and three other Washington Office managers signed an open letter to Forest Service employees encouraging them to take an interest in Forest Service history and help preserve records, photographs, and so forth. By the end of the month, the ad hoc history committee held a meeting with Elwood Maunder of the Forest History Society and Amelia Fry of the Oral History Office of the University of California—Berkeley. Their first point of discussion was: "What do we need history for? To what uses will we put a program of historical preservation?" (April 22, 1968, letter by Gordon Fox, the committee chair, to members of the committee).

The initial program was slanted toward oral history interviews and focused on administrative projects. For example, in his letter, Fox suggested an interview with Clare Hendee on the development of the Job Corps. It was recommended that the history program required a centralized history office to direct the effort and serve as custodian of a history reference collection (memorandum to Fox by Cliff Owsley, April 25, 1968). Owsley responded to the earlier query by Fox of April 22 regarding the purpose of history by saying that many people were interested in agency history. Employed in I&E (later OI, now PAO), Owsley knew from experience about answering such questions from the public. In fact, 7 years earlier, I&E had began assembling a limited historical file to aid in

responding to inquiries. Owsley wrote: "History, including exact documented dates, is needed nearly every time anybody writes about the Forest Service. A full-time historian would be in the position to say, 'I've got it here in my files, or I can tell you where it is.'" He urged a focus on documentary rather than oral history.

By May 29, 1968, Gordon Fox prepared a report on the ad hoc Forest Service committee meeting. The report began with the committee's response to the question about the need for history.

> We need to know the past, since to some extent, it is a guide to the future. History tends to repeat itself, therefore it is probable that experience gained in overcoming past problems and challenges will be useful when they arise again; example: the periodic agitation to move the Forest Service to Interior. The Forest Service has a responsibility to help maintain a complete history of forestry in the U.S., not only in the interest of historical accuracy, but so that the Forest Service role in the history will be known. Events move rapidly, the organization expands, and many people who knew about early Forest Service history are no longer living. . . . It is better to keep an adequate historical account of events and programs as they happen than have to go back several years and try to reconstruct events.
>
> One part of the organization, Visitor Information Service (VIS), is already considerably involved in history and historical restoration. New people continuously coming into the organization do not know Forest Service history; therefore they need historical perspective in order to perform their jobs properly. The lessons of history can be a valuable training tool.

This report listed potential projects, including a definitive Forest Service history (under a cooperative agreement, the University of Washington Press in 1976 published Harold Steen's history of the agency), a book on Gifford Pinchot, and a film on Forest Service history "for orienting new employees."

In the action plan section of the same report, they called for work with the National Archives, a program of oral history, field survey of unit historical material, and a tie-in with the 1976 U.S. Bicentennial Program through a program on the history of American forestry.

As a followup to the recommendations of the committee on September 11, 1968, Chief Edward Cliff sent a memorandum to regional foresters and station area directors asking for narrative summaries of unit histories. Over 50 replies (of varying length and quality) were received (Fox letter of March 11, 1969). Finally on March 20, 1970, Elwood Maunder (executive director of the Forest History Society) submitted a report to the Forest Service on managing a history program. The report noted (ibid:7) that Forest Service history is being dealt with on a "piecemeal basis." To develop a viable program he recommended employment of a professional historian with an adequately funded support staff.

The Forest Service formally established a History Section within the Division of Information and Education as directed by Edward Cliff in a memorandum of August 24, 1970. However, the agency opted to ignore Maunder's recommendation that it be staffed with an administrative historian and a "resident research historian" with adequate resources and "prestige in the hierarchy of the Forest Service" (Maunder report

Editor's Remarks

1970:12). Instead of an in-house staff of research historians, the agency decided to contract for services outside the agency with the Forest History Society and others. Cliff Owsley was appointed the administrator of the new program.

Here my narrative will conclude because the period from 1970 to the present is covered by Dennis Roth in the winter 1989 issue of *The Public Historian*. *History Line* emerged in 1971 as a means of communication between the Washington Office History Section and unit history coordinators. The first issue (March 20, 1971) listed their names. Today, over half the regions have history coordinators who work in cultural resources rather than public affairs, which provided all the early coordinators. This shift is reflected in the contents of *History Line*, which now covers the activities of forest archaeologists in its pages. Moreover, they are the primary contributors to the newsletter.

The status of the Washington Office History Section program eroded over time with the decline in staff numbers and lack of attention. In 1981, outside contractor Gary Gray lamented the "relatively insignificant stature" of the history program in the agency. Outside the Washington Office, he noted that the task of history in the field units was sporadically undertaken by archaeologists or public affairs personnel in the absence of an organized program. The program's lack of visibility was partly a result of its size: a two-person staff is lost in an agency of over 30,000 employees. In addition, the decline in history support was a factor of time as many of the original advocates of the program have retired. A glance at the manual reveals the most critical problem. The mission is too broad to be done by only a few; the result is that by attempting to be a full-service program—one that administers contracts, maintains a reference collection, coordinates with the units, writes specialized monographs for units such as on wilderness or wildlife management, provides direction on records and artifacts, and so forth—the section was stretched beyond its capacity. Thus, agency examination of the program and its functions is needed in the third decade of its existence.

Washington Office Activities

The first national meeting of Forest Service history coordinators was held in the Washington Office on October 19–20, 1988. Eleven regional and research unit history program or cultural resources management (CRM) personnel attended, in addition to Dennis Roth and Terry West of the Washington Office History Section (which hosted the meeting), Carol Severance of Grey Towers, and Tom Harlan, an assistant director of the Washington Office PAO.

On the first day, the topic of curation of Forest Service administrative history artifacts and records was discussed. Invited speakers included William Hauser (USDA National Agricultural Library), Norina Mosby (Forest Service records analyst in the Washington Office), and George Chalou (National Archives). On the afternoon of the next day, a workshop was held to solicit proposals from participants on three basic issues: the future of the history program, what the Washington Office History Section can do for the field units, and how to increase cooperation among history coordinators. Numerous ideas were proposed for future action. The most important proposal was mutual work on the 1991 centennial celebration of the Forest Reserves. The second proposal selected by the History Section staff for action was the distribution of "seed money" for unit history projects. The third proposal was a plan for national history recognition certificates for agency employees at all levels.

The meeting was judged a success by participants, and plans were made to hold another national gathering in Albuquerque, New Mexico (Region 3), in the fall of 1990.

[*Editor's Note:* This is a short followup on the results of the conference-generated action plan. The subsequent proposal to restructure the Washington Office PAO—which includes the History Section—occupied the attention of the history staff, and 1991 work was delegated to a new (temporary) detail position, the centennial coordinator. John Hendricks of the Sawtooth National Forest arrived this June to fill the position and revive this effort.]

The unexpected retention of Washington Office History Section funds allowed us to move ahead a year early on unit history project seed money. Proposals were solicited from the units, and 50 were received; 14 were selected for funding for a total amount of $30,100. Unfortunately, the funds were not released, because a deficit shortfall in the agency made it necessary to forfeit the money. The proposals are being kept on file for the day that funds become available.

The loss of funds also affected the proposed history of Region 6. The History Section had planned to contract out the history, but then opted to have it prepared in-house by Jerry Williams of the Umpqua and Willamette National Forests. Regional approval was granted for him to undertake the project; however, the region was unable to fund the task since they also lost their money.

The Washington Office History Section was unable to move ahead on garnering nominations for candidates for national history award certificates. The certificate was to recognize employees who had performed special acts to help preserve agency history. Hence, in the absence of a formal certificate or nomination process, we would like to recognize Bruce Harvey. Bruce is the timber sale administrator on the National Forests in Florida, who, while laying out a sale, identified a historic site and arranged for its protection. There are many others who have done as much, but without the information, we can only congratulate them by saying a general thanks.

Washington Office Activities

Recent Publications

Dennis Roth, Chief Historian, had an article published in the winter 1989 issue of *The Public Historian*. The essay, "History in the U.S. Forest Service," covers the internal activities of the Forest Service History Program from 1971 onward. It offers a quick introduction to the challenges, contributions, and limits of the program.

Terry West completed a paper on "History of National Grasslands Management under the USDA Forest Service" for a conference held at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, June 15–18, 1989. The theme of the conference was the "Department of Agriculture in Historical Perspective." The USDA was one of the sponsors of the symposium, which commemorated the centennial of the USDA as a cabinet department.

Project Under Way To Organize Pinchot Papers—*Tom Harlan, Washington Office*

Before leaving the directorship of the Washington Office PAO to return to Grey Towers, Ed Vandermillen budgeted $20,000 to reorganize part of Gifford Pinchot's collection of papers in the Manuscript Reading Room of the Library of Congress. The 3,000 boxes contain Pinchot's life in diaries, correspondence, book drafts, and miscellaneous papers. The current project calls for processing materials covering the early conservation period from 1890 to 1910.

Pinchot was a prolific correspondent and diarist. He kept meticulous notes on his life from his student days at Yale University to his two terms as Governor of Pennsylvania. He recorded details of the several national and international commissions on which he served, as well as the activities of luminaries in the conservation movement. The files contain correspondence from John Muir; Dr. Charles Sargent, the renowned Harvard botanist; Sir Dietrich Brandis, who introduced forestry to India for the British Colonial Government; and Theodore Roosevelt.

Because of their wide scope, the files have much to tell us about the social and political context of the conservation and forestry movements. Pinchot's correspondents included Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, and John Wesley Powell, among others.

Dr. Jean Pablo, retired Forest Service historian, is the subject matter specialist for the project. Her personal knowledge of and acquaintanceship with the Pinchot family is extremely helpful to a project of this magnitude. Dr. Pablo is assisted by Eileen Menees of Escondido, California, and Alma Hostetler of Washington, D.C. Dr. Joseph Miller, librarian of the Yale School of Forestry, is the project's administrator. I have been working with the crew as the Forest Service liaison person.

The work involves inventorying materials found in the boxes, putting them in acid-free folders, removing rusty paper clips, and making any recommendations needed for further preservation or use. While most of the paper has been found in good shape, some of Pinchot's correspondence copybooks are fading and will need to be microfilmed before they become completely unreadable.

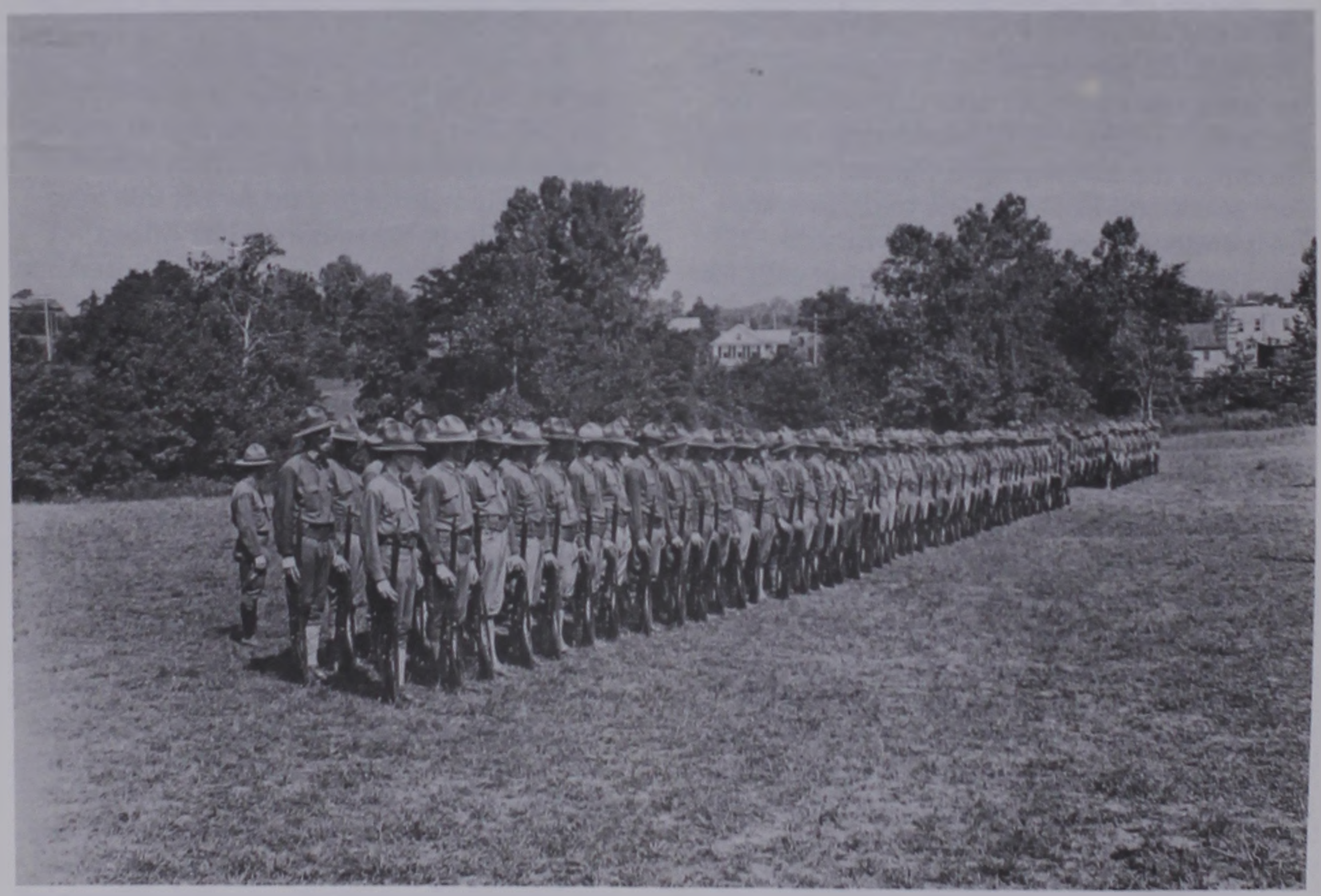
A computer data base of the inventory will be compiled so that Library of Congress staff members can provide improved service to authors and scholars. The project should add significantly to the knowledge about the early conservation movement.

Washington Office Activities

Saving the Past for the Future

The USDA Forest Service and the Society for American Archaeology have joined forces through the Forest Service's Challenge Cost-Share Program to combat looting and vandalism of archaeological sites. Because of the nation-wide increase in the theft of artifacts and destruction of sites, the need for action to protect archaeology sites has become urgent. The Society for American Archaeology has initiated "Saving the Past for the Future: An Anti-Looting Project" with the goal of understanding why looting occurs, determining ways to reduce looting, and educating the public to save America's archaeological heritage.

Chris Christenson (Pacific Northwest Station in Portland, Oregon) chaired a workshop on "Understanding the Problem" held on May 7–14 at Taos, New Mexico. The proceedings will be distributed to Forest Service units when published.



Tenth Reserve Engineers (Forest) on the parade ground of American University (Washington, DC) during World War I. Known as the "Lumberjack Regiment," they supplied timbers for military construction work. (Photograph, E.S. Shipp, 1917.)

Washington Office Activities

In partnership with the Society, the Forest Service will produce brochures and other popular items as educational tools to reach the public. Other activities will include drafting model legislation and traveling exhibits. Interested persons wanting more information are encouraged to contact: Loretta Neumann and Kathleen Reinburg, CEHP, Inc., 1333 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036; Tel: (202) 293-1774.

Feature Article

Forest Service China—*Gary A. McLean and Kathy McKay, Region 1*

Last year, *History Line* and several regional newsletters published a request for information on Forest Service china. On the Flathead National Forest, we became interested in the china during the cataloging of a large collection of china at the Big Prairie complex in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The collection included various pieces of china (cups, saucers, bowls, plates, and so on) by four different manufacturers: Buffalo, Shenango, Jackson, and Tepco.

At that time, we assumed that the white, heavy porcelain ware with a green Forest Service logo was used Service-wide. From the correspondence we have received on the subject, however, this does not seem to be the case. Our correspondence from past and current Forest Service personnel indicated that most respondents associate the china with a Region 1 experience. Numerous veterans claim the china was a ubiquitous feature in Forest Service-administered Blister Rust Control (BRC) camps in Region 1. Although the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was active in the BRC program, they did not use Forest Service china; CCC alumni wrote us that, instead, the camps used military dishes and utensils. Other Federal programs of the period (such as the Works Progress Administration) were involved in the BRC activity and did use the Forest Service china. We suspect the china was warehoused in the central supply office for the region in Spokane, Washington. Individual units would then order their own shipment of china direct from the supply center. The center no longer exists so it is impossible to check its records.

In our research, we have identified seven different manufacturers (Sterling, McNichol, and Opco are the other three). None of the companies we contacted are able to supply the dates when they produced the china. Pieces of Jackson china we found carry a date of 1939. The exact date when the Forest Service ordered the china is located somewhere in a record housed in the Federal Records Center or the regional archives. We hope to review the archives in Seattle someday as our research continues. If you are interested in supplying information on this subject, please contact the forest archaeologist, Flathead National Forest, 1935 3rd Avenue, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Feature Article

Specialized Artifacts—*Jim Calvi, Kootenai National Forest*

[*Editor's Note:* A new form of diversion was created in the Forest Service when the agency hired archaeologists to staff the new program in cultural resources management. The object of this game is to "stump the archaeologist " by placing some unidentifiable object on her or his desk and saying, "What's this?" Those employees most adept at this challenge to the ego of their esteemed colleague will, of course, wait for the proper moment to spring this surprise. On Monday mornings, the bleary-eyed cultural resource specialist is always eager to engage in this delightful pastime. Better yet is to present your forest archaeologist with the object just when the visiting delegation from the Regional Office happens to be at his or her desk. One word of warning: should the archaeologist actually know what the object is (or sound like he or she knows), it is wise to let some time pass before trying again so as not to be subjected to a smug look.

Thanks to Michael "Smoke" Pfeiffer, seasonal archaeologist on the Kootenai National Forest, I learned about the following account by retired employee Jim Calvi. The whole story is even worse than we realized. It seems that our employees had help in this endeavor to "stump the archaeologist." Read on, and you will see what I mean.]

Over the years that I have been conducting cultural resource surveys, I have encountered, from time to time, strange-looking structures and artifacts. At first, I attributed my lack of recognition to the fact that I was never formally trained in archaeology. However, after many years of observation, I am convinced that a few of those early trappers, homesteaders, and other folks could see into the future, and knew what was to happen about a hundred years or so from the time when they lived. No doubt they were shocked and concerned with what they saw. Like similar people today, they wanted to warn future generations and make use of their powers. But quickly recalling history, they already knew what their peers thought of their strange ability, so they kept silent and lived to ripe old ages. Never once during their lives did they worry about being hanged or stoned, burned at the stake, or tarred and feathered.

In an individual who was the recipient of such an ability, the lack of an avenue in which to assist humankind caused a great amount of frustration. This frustration needed to be vented somehow—how to express this "I know" without stating it. Then one day, as old Joe Homesteader was taking out the trash, the thought occurred from somewhere out in the future: "cultural resources." Now not knowing just what the term implied, Joe let his instinct flow and promptly took an old nail and punched a series of small holes into the side of a tin can before throwing it into the dump. Of course, by now he had become a bit daft. The years of frustration had warped his mind. He decided to amuse himself and supply the Cultural Resources Program with a few specialized artifacts.

Some of his best efforts were the various metal objects. What was accomplished with an anvil and a forge must be considered a work of art, because much of what he pounded, molded, melted, bent, creased, and folded has never been identified as something *useful*. They are usually grouped by the cultural resource specialist as miscellaneous abstract pounded, molded, melted, bent, creased, and folded metal "things."

Such was the wit and humor of the warped, far-sighted homesteader. As a result of those efforts, we now have a small collection of artifacts, such as horseshoes for elephants, three-legged beds, horizontal candlestick holders, seven-sided building bricks, two-legged tables with a pair of one-legged chairs, a couple of 18-foot by 10-inch

single trees, and hundreds of pounded, molded, melted, bent, creased, and folded metal things.

The trapper, on the other hand, led a nomadic life. He moved over long distances tending his trap line. This, of course, presented a challenge to the far-sighted trapper. But he was up to the challenge and left posterity his line shack, or as we call them, his "trapper's cabin." To view one of these structures is to conjure up a vision of a deerskin-clad individual with a coonskin cap, traveling over the snow in snowshoes. His skin would be tanned and weathered, his eyes never missing a thing, capable of observing two no-see-ums mating at a hundred yards. He endured hardships in a land where the grizzly bears were built like a brown 18-wheel truck with four legs. And to think this trapper was only 3 feet tall!

The line cabin that he usually left behind typically measures 5 feet wide by 7 feet long and 4 feet high. The doorway is never any higher than 3 feet. This crude structure is made from logs and has a slab plank roof. It has no windows, and the finish work was apparently done with a blunt rock or possibly the corkscrew attachment to his Swiss Army knife. Inside, taking up at least a quarter of the space, would be a fire pit or a tin stove. So compact is the space that he need only strike a wooden match, drop it into the stove, and set the damper, and he would be warm all night long. At 50 below zero, a second match might be needed. Imagine the pain he went through in building this just for the Cultural Resources Program. This does not count the pain he endured while wrapped around the inside of these structures trying to sleep—a situation in which a sneeze could prove fatal.

Now knowing about the existence of these far-sighted, gifted people, I no longer dread finding an unusual structure or even a weird-looking metal thing. I just smile to myself and say, "Yup, he knew." Not all archaeologists will agree with my findings. This, of course, is understandable. After all, as a "paraprofessional" my responsibilities are locating and recording sites and not determining or evaluating what I have found. However, I must admit that I do enjoy handing the forest archaeologist 16 rough-sawn boards nailed together at various angles, with five tin cans nailed on it at several places and wrapped with a couple of strands of copper wire.

Cultural Resources Management Activities

Northern Region

Nez Perce National Forest

The Slate Creek Historical Ranger Station will be opened to the public on a full-time basis this summer. (In the past, visitors had to get the district receptionist to open the museum and act as a tour guide). Future displays will be interpreted with signs.

The two-story log cabin was built in 1909 next to Slate Creek, approximately 5 miles from its present location on Highway 95 in the Salmon River Canyon. The building served as the first Slate Creek Ranger Station from 1909 to 1917. From 1917 to 1959, it was used as a guard station by fire and trail crews. It was moved downstream by the Nez Perce "Hot Shot" fire crew in 1975 and reconstructed in front of the current Slate Creek Ranger Station as part of the U.S. Bicentennial Program. In the past 2 years, sections of the cabin were restored, and the displays are being updated. The finished cabin will represent the interior of an early ranger station and the life of the first district ranger.

Slate Creek Ranger Station on the Nez Perce National Forest was used from 1909 to 1917; it is now restored as a museum open to the public. (Photograph, James Held, forest archeologist on the Nez Perce National Forest.)

Many of the artifacts and photographs used in the cabin were donated by Forest Service employees and the public. There is still a need for photographs of the building in its original location on Slate Creek and for early Forest Service artifacts. Anybody who has artifacts they wish to donate, or early photographs of the cabin or activities associated with it, should contact James Heid, Nez Perce Forest Archaeologist (Rte. 2, Box 475, Grangeville, ID 83530; Tel: (208) 983-1950).

Clearwater National Forest

A "Living History" weekend (June 24–25) was held at the Lochsa Historical Ranger Station on the Clearwater National Forest. The station is located 48 miles east of Kooskia, Idaho, on the Lewis and Clark Highway (U.S. 12). District Ranger Jon Blesoe planned a celebration that will be a return to the 1920's and 1930's, with demonstrations of shake splitting, horse logging, and mule packing, plus other activities. Special recognition was given to those people who helped preserve Forest Service history. The book "Lochsa" by Lou Hartig, District Ranger on the Lochsa from 1943–1967, was featured.

Intermountain Region

Boise National Forest

The Idaho Historical Society and Boise National Forest sponsored for public archaeologists a workshop on May 22–26, 1989, in Boise. The program combined lectures with hands-on work with Chinese artifacts and sites related to the theme

Cultural Resources Management Activities

"Overseas Chinese on the Victorian Mining Frontier." Dr. Priscilla Wegars displayed materials from the University of Idaho's Asian collection. University scholars, such as Don Hardesty (Nevada) and Rick Sprague (Idaho), guided discussions on a range of topics, including architecture, historic records, terraced gardens, culinary behavior, and ethnicity. The workshop was limited to 30 participants and designed for public archaeologists who need specialized training to recognize, evaluate, and curate these resources.

Humboldt National Forest

Between July 17 and August 17, 1989, the University of Nevada—Reno will be holding a historic archaeology field school in the mining town of Shermantown on the Humboldt National Forest. Interested people are urged to take part in this venture.

Increased site vandalism at Shermantown led the National Forest to obtain Challenge Cost-Share Program funds for excavations and surveys of the town. The work is to be undertaken in partnership with Dr. Donald Hardesty and the University of Nevada—Reno. Part of this agreement allows for participation by Forest Service archaeologists and other individuals interested in gaining experience in western frontier boomtown archaeology.

Shermantown was a town of 2,000 in a mining district of nearly 30,000 people, all situated in a 5-mile area on the White Pine Mountains of the Ely Ranger District in eastern Nevada. As is typical of boomtowns, it flourished only a short time (1868–1871). In that period, 20 saloons, numerous hotels and boarding houses, stores, restaurants, banks, theaters, silver processing mills, and houses were constructed of stone, brick, and wood. By reviewing original newspapers published in Shermantown in those years, a census of nearly 100 enterprises was obtained. A Chinese ethnic community existed on the edge of town. On the surface, little remains of Shermantown today except for a few stone buildings; below the surface, however, is probably a vast layer of deposits.

The week of July 31–August 4 is suggested as the best time to participate, although other arrangements can be made. Participants in the field school will camp in a pinyon and juniper forest at an elevation of 7,600 feet. Meals will be available for a fee, and transportation from Ely, Nevada, will be provided. Air transportation to Ely is available from Sky West Airlines. There will be no costs other than per diem and travel.

Those interested in this experience should contact Fred Frampton, Forest Archaeologist, Humboldt National Forest, 976 Mountain City Highway, Elko, Nevada 89801; Tel: (702) 738-5171; Data General: R04F09A.

Moscow Forestry Sciences Laboratory Celebrates the Past

On November 9, 1988, the Moscow (Idaho) Forestry Sciences Laboratory (FSL) celebrated its 25th anniversary. A part of the Intermountain Research Station, the Moscow FSL is located on the campus of the University of Idaho. The Intermountain Research Station has been active for 75 years in the Region.

At the celebration, guest speaker John Hendee, Dean of the College of Forestry, Wildlife, and Range Sciences at the University of Idaho, discussed the productive and cooperative relationship between the

university and the Forest Service, and project leaders discussed the future as well as the history of research programs. The evening ended with reminiscences of early days in Moscow by retirees.

Blister Rusters Meet

Each year, foresters and scientists connected with the blister rust control effort in the Forest Service meet at the Moscow FSL. The latest meeting (September 1988) was attended by about 40 "old-time blister rusters." Some of the members recall "pullin' ribes" in the 1920's; most recall the periodic attempts to stop the fungus foe from destroying western forests.

White pine blister rust, caused by *Chronartium ribicola,* was first discovered in western North America in 1921, near Vancouver, British Columbia, in a plantation of pines that had been imported from France. Nearby western white pines became infected, and the rust spread to other areas. The primary host is white pine, and the secondary host is either currant or gooseberry bushes (*Ribes* spp.). Much of the initial control work focused on removal of the secondary host—that is, uprooting the currant and gooseberry bushes by hand. "By 1941, over a half a billion *Ribes* bushes had been pulled," said Project Leader Ray Hoff, Moscow FSL. This technique was seen as a losing battle, and during this period work began on identifying genetically resistant trees. The work was continued at the Moscow FSL, and by now stocks of disease-resistant seedlings are in production.

Pacific Southwest Region

Stanislaus National Forest

This past fall, the Stanislaus National Forest was given a restored historic boiler by the Davis family of Palo Alto, California. The century-old boiler was first noted in 1928 or 1929 by the family while hiking the trail to their summer home on Catfish Lake. Over the years, the boiler was vandalized, and the Davises became concerned enough to set the boiler upright on a concrete pad and attach a plaque. A cooperative agreement between the Forest Service and the Davis Foundation enabled this artifact of history to continue to intrigue hikers in the area. The boiler seems to have been installed at the turn of the century to power a winch used to replace timbers on dams built (in the 1850's) to store water for hydraulic mining.

Tahoe National Forest

The Tahoe National Forest and the University of Nevada—Reno have entered into a cooperative agreement to complete an oral history project on the early 20th-century Italian-Swiss dairy industry in the Sierra Valley of the eastern Sierra Nevadas. The program is being directed by Professor Tom King, who will conduct some of the interviews this year. The university plans to publish the transcripts. It is anticipated that the interviews will mark the beginning of a multiyear study of the Italian-Swiss and the history of the eastern flank of the Sierra.

Cultural Resources Management Activities

Carmel Meisenbach is a new co-op education historian on the Tahoe National Forest. Ms. Meisenbach recently completed an historic study of the Milton Mining and Water Company's "Milton Ditch," which played a role in the debate over the 1880's water supply in California. She is currently working on a contextual history of 19th- and early 20th-century water conveyance systems used in mining, hydroelectric, and agriculture industries. Ms. Meisenbach plans to enter the public history graduate program at Sacramento State this year.

Modoc National Forest

This field season, the Modoc National Forest will conduct a historic and architectural assessment of Forest Service buildings as part of its facilities plan. The evaluation will be conducted by a student from the Public History Department of the University of California—Santa Barbara. About 35 structures dating from 1920 to 1955 will be documented. The study will be used to shape building maintenance plans in regard to historically significant structures.

Jacinto D. Reyes, ranger on the Cuyama District, and his brother Geraldo building a trail on the Santa Barbara National Forest, Region 5. (Photograph, Bill Friend, 1908.)

Pacific Northwest Region

Olympic National Forest

Jack Rooney, a retired cultural resource specialist on the Quinault Ranger District, is researching the history of the Olympic National Forest for a text he plans to write. He is working out of the Supervisor's Office and would appreciate calls—from retirees and others with information, photographs, and memorabilia; Tel: (206) 753-9542.

Southern Region

Alabama National Forests

With the new amendments to the 1979 Archeological Resources Protection Act, Federal land managers are required to interpret the cultural resources on their lands. The first step in this task is interesting the public in their local and regional cultural heritage. One excellent vehicle for doing this is a "living history" program: the interactive and in-person value of living history reenactments often makes them far more effective than museum displays.

The Alabama National Forests held their first living history event in February 1989. Volunteers from the Southern Frontier Historical Association re-enacted a visit to the Creek Indian Nation by 18-century land speculators from Charleston, South Carolina. About 50 visitors watched the event, learning about land speculation, relations of whites and Indians, and Indian place names and languages. The garb and

Cultural Resources Management Activities

belongings of the actors served to illustrate 18th-century technology and culture and provoked questions on these and other topics. The influx of settlers into the area at that time was explained as a result of payments to revolutionary veterans in land, because the young government had little coin.

The event was coordinated with the Anniston Museum of Natural History. The Forest Service declared it a success and plans to hold future "living history" events on Forests in Alabama.

Alaska Region

Tongass National Forest

The Stikine Area of the Tongass National Forest has implemented an oral history project to record the origins of southeast Alaska place names. The study of place names, or ethnogeography, provides historical perspective and gives local residents a feeling of personal identity with the land. Researchers plan to ask area residents about locally used place names—that is, names that differ from those in published maps and nautical charts. The project's goal is to prepare a dictionary of place names that will be shared with all the people of southeast Alaska.

With its history of exploration and conquest, the Stikine Area has had a series of place names. Although the area is claimed as an ancestral home by several clans of the Tlingit, few of their names have endured. The names that have survived mostly originated from the explorations of George Vancouver in 1793 and 1794 and from later Russian immigrants arriving in the early 1800's who named many of the islands (for example, Kupreanof, Mitkof, and Wrangell). The poor documentation of 20th-century place names and early Tlingit names gave impetus to the study.

A team of Forest Service cultural resource specialists are interviewing people in the communities of Petersburg, Wrangell, and Kake. The audiocassette tapes they make will be stored at the University of Alaska. Plans call for using the data in interpretive displays, newspaper articles, radio and television broadcasts, and brochures. Partnerships with local museums, schools, Alaska Native organizations, and other interested groups are also being solicited. Former Alaska Regional employees of the Forest Service are encouraged to contribute any information they have concerning the origins of southwest Alaska place names. If you have information, please write Mark McCallum, Tongass National Forest, Stikine Area, P.O. Box 309, Petersburg, AK 99833; Tel: (907) 772-3941.

Tongass Village Sites

During the summer of 1988, a graduate student from the University of California and two assistants began a 2-year project to record archaeological sites on the Stikine Area of the Tongass National Forest. Over 60 sites were identified on Kuiu Island, ranging from historic fox farms to prehistoric Tlingit winter villages. Research on the six village sites reveals rectangular house remains measuring as large as 45 by 60 feet. Archaeologists plan to compare household artifacts to determine whether status differences existed among villagers. Excavations toward that end will start this summer. The Forest Service is providing technical and logistical support for the project.

Feature Article

Squirrel Creek Campground and Art Carhart

—Allen Kane and Emmett Foster, Region 2

The Squirrel Creek Campground, located in the Wet Mountains foothills west of Pueblo, Colorado, on the San Isabel National Forest, has been almost unused since a flood in 1947 destroyed the access road. Last summer, the National Forest and the City of Pueblo repaired a group shelter in the area and built a trail connecting the campground and the popular Pueblo Mountain Park. This was made possible by a Challenge Cost-Share Program agreement between the National Forest and the Pueblo Parks Department.

This arrangement was not the first time the two worked together on the campground. In 1918–19, the Squirrel Creek Campground was the site of an innovative funding program and served as a model in recreation planning by Art Carhart—the founder of recreation management in the Forest Service.

The Squirrel Creek Campground may be the first formally constructed campground in a National Forest. Plans for the initial campground were born in 1918 when the Commerce Club (Chamber of Commerce) of Pueblo asked the San Isabel National Forest to install camping and picnic facilities near the town on the Wet Mountains. Because Congress had not appropriated funds for recreation projects to the Forest Service (that mission being then entirely assigned to the National Park Service), no money was available. The club, with city help, donated $1,200 to the Forest to develop recreation facilities in Squirrel Creek Canyon. Tables, fireplaces, shelters, and toilets were built for the use of residents fleeing the hot summer days in Pueblo. Thus possibly the first recreation challenge cost-share project was undertaken in 1919.

In this period, Arthur Carhart had persuaded A.S. Peck, Rocky Mountain District (now Regional) Forester, to hire him as a "recreational engineer," a completely new position. As the first recreation manager, Carhart not only developed original plans for recreation, he also built an appreciation within the agency for the future of outdoor recreation. His first project was Trapper's Lake on the White River National Forest. The local staff envisioned a road around the lake and the construction of 100 summer homes. Impressed by the scenic beauty of the lake, Carhart instead advocated the radical notion of leaving the site alone in permanent trust for the public. After intense discussion among the staff of the Forest Service, the plan was accepted. Later, in a meeting with Aldo Leopold, then also a Forest Service employee, he prepared a memorandum on the subject that helped lay the foundation for today's wilderness (system). In recognition of his role in protecting what later became (1975) part of the Flat Tops Wilderness, in 1985 the Forest Service formally dedicated the hiking trail around Trapper's Lake to the memory of Arthur Carhart and his contributions to the Nation.

Recreational facilities built by the City of Pueblo (Colorado) on Squirrel Creek in 1923.

Feature Article

Lighthouses in Russian America—*Jerry Clark, Cultural Resources Manager, Region 10*

When the United States purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867, there was only one lighthouse in the whole of Russian America. It was located in the cupola atop the building that served the Russian-American Company as its administration building and Governor's residence ("Baranov's Castle") in Sitka. Some historical sources, however, talked of a second lighthouse, marking the western entrance to Sitka Harbor, on what is now named Signal Island. This island was named Maiachnoi (Lighthouse) Island on the Russian charts. It does not seem that these two lights were ever contemporaneous. When was the Maiachnoi Island lighthouse established?

Captain Richard Collison, HMS Enterprise, put in at Sitka in 1850. In his journal, he noted "soon after getting sight of the lighthouse at Sitka, we hoisted the Pilot Jack" (Pierce 1972b:42). Because Collison was not more specific, we can only assume this was the light on the Governor's residence. Captain Edward Belcher, in command of the HMS Sulphur, visited New Archangel (as Sitka was generally referred to then) in 1837; his account provides the next earliest description of the light atop the administration building:

> The present very substantial house erecting for the Governor and his establishment, is . . . capped by a lighthouse in the centre of the roof. The summit of the light is one hundred and ten feet above the sea-level, and commands a most extensive prospect (Pierce and Winslow 1979:21).

Belcher later comments:

> The Russian chart places a light on one of the rocks in the western channel, but this is incorrect. There is but one light, and that is on the citadel, and, unless a vessel makes her signal, will not be illuminated. Two guns is the customary signal; and the boats will come out to assist, the pilot coming off in one of them (Pierce and Winslow 1979:29).

Francis Simpkinson, a midshipman on the HMS Sulphur, stated that the light "is only illuminated when a ship has been outside the preceding evening" (Pierce and Winslow 1979:93).

The existence of another, earlier lighthouse, however, is confirmed in a letter written by Nikolai Rezanov to the Directors of the Russian-American Company from New Archangel on November 6, 1805. Rezanov writes:

> Now I will describe to you the port of New Archangel with all its establishments. . . . Innumerable wooded islands in the bay provide good shelter for ships and a fine view. There is a lighthouse on one of the islands (Tikhmenev 1979:153).

Thus it seems that the first lighthouse in Russian America was established little more than a year after Alexander Baranov founded New Archangel in the fall of 1804. Other evidence (not cited here) indicates that the lighthouse on Maiachnoi Island fell into disuse sometime after 1821. The second lighthouse on the Governor's residence was operated by the Russians from 1837 to 1867 and became the first lighthouse to be operated by the United States in Alaska.

Feature Article

Raphael Zon—*Allan Taylor, North Central Forest Experiment Station, Region 9*

On February 24, 1989, Raphael Zon, Chief of Silvics from 1907 to 1914, was inducted into Wisconsin's Forestry Hall of Fame at Stevens Point for his many contributions to forestry in the Great Lakes. Ronald Lindmark, Director of the North Central Station (which Zon founded) and Zon's colleague Paul Rudolf participated in the ceremony.

In 1897, Raphael Zon left his native Russia to journey to the United States. He was 23 and held a bachelor's degree in zoology from the Imperial University of Kazan. In 1901, he received a second degree from Cornell University in forestry and joined Gifford Pinchot in the newly formed Bureau of Forestry in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He devoted the next 43 years of his life to advancing the cause of forestry in this country, with special emphasis on forest research.

Zon had many "firsts" to his credit. In a memo to Chief Forester Pinchot in 1906, Zon recommended a plan for creating forest experiment stations. Gifford Pinchot agreed, and in August 1908, Zon selected a site for the first experiment station during a field trip to the Coconino National Forest in Arizona (see following article). In 1923, he set up the Lake States Forest Experiment Station at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul and became its first director.

Paul Rudolf, who worked with Dr. Zon at the Lakes States station, recalls that he was an energetic man who personally shaped the work of the station for years to come. Fire research was critical then because of the large areas of cutover lands in the region. Director Zon started several fire programs at the station with studies on slash disposal, burning, and habitat restoration. Later, during the "Dust Bowl" era in the 1930's, Zon supported President Franklin Roosevelt's proposal to plant a mile-wide band of trees from North Dakota to Mexico as a windbreak. Zon and the station went to work on a plan, and in 1934, the Forest Service began planting; by the time the agency ceased work in 1940, there were 18,600 miles of shelterbelts.

Paul Rudolf says that Zon inspired the staff to a "missionary zeal." Zon was demanding, insisting on the publication of research results in a readable language. To ensure that his staff reported their research, he required them to have documented the

Raphael Zon, first director of Lake States Forest Experiment Station, and early advocate of forest research in the USDA Forest Service.

previous season's work before going out in the field the next season.

Zon stressed application of research results; he once wrote: "Research can supply technical facts, but unless the entire administrative personnel charged with the management of the forests is interested in and undertakes the application of these facts, research is helpless."

"Here We Shall Plant the Tree of Research"—*Rick Fletcher, Rocky Mountain Station*

On a hot afternoon in August 1908, Raphael Zon, Chief of Silvics for the Forest Service, was in Flagstaff, Arizona, to select a site for the first forest experiment station in the United States. On rented horses, the party examined a site suggested by Frank Pooler, the Coconino National Forest Supervisor. After a thunderstorm, they arrived at the area—a beautiful stand of ponderosa pine. "Here," said Zon, "we shall plant the tree of research."

At this site, named the Fort Valley Experimental Forest, formal timber management research began in the Forest Service. If the Forest Service was to advise private timber holders and manage its own lands, it needed information from research on forests in the nation.

From its opening in late 1908, Fort Valley was the main field station and laboratory for forest management investigations in Region 3. G.A. (Gus) Pearson, a pioneer silviculturist, was the principal forest investigator until his retirement in 1945. In 1908, he had made that field trip with Raphael Zon to visit the site of the future station. Fort Valley remains an important center for Forest Service research under the administration of the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, headquartered in Fort Collins, Colorado. Scientists at Fort Valley are investigating the nutritional needs of the spruce budworm, how cold and drought affect seedlings, and the habitat requirements of the bald eagle. The U.S. Geological Survey also conducts work at the center. Over the years, the site has had several additions, but some of the original structures, including Gus Pearson's residence, are still in existence.

Feature Article

The Tionesta Scenic and Natural Area—*Paul D. Brohn, Region 9*

Drive along scenic Route 6 in northwestern Pennsylvania, and you will arrive at the small village of Ludlow. Ludlow was founded during the economic boom of the mid-1800's when oil and lumber production and tanneries flourished in the State. Today, it is one of the gateways to the Tionesta Scenic and Natural Area (Tionesta Area), a 4,100-acre tract of old-growth hardwoods located 7 miles south of Ludlow on the Allegheny National Forest.

In the Tionesta Area are remnants of vast stands of beech, hemlock, and maple that existed in the northeastern United States before they were clear-cut in the nineteenth century. These stands of 300- to 400-year-old trees in the Tionesta Area offer a unique opportunity for research on eastern old-growth forests and an outstanding beauty for forest visitors.

The area was purchased in 1936 to form part of the expanding Allegheny National Forest; its trees were survivors in a wasteland of cutover tracts. The Forest Service was only able to obtain surface rights to the land. The area had been drilled for oil in 1904, less than 50 years after Colonel Drake drilled the discovery well 40 miles to the west, and oil and gas production continued after purchase. The Forest Service found it acceptable because the existing production equipment was minimal.

The situation changed during the 1970's. The tract was added to the National Registry of Natural Landmarks in 1973, yet drilling by the National Fuel Gas Supply of Buffalo (New York) increased only a few years later. Because of this increased activity, the Forest Service realized continuous development would not be compatible with management objectives for this rare area. The Forest Service began negotiations with the corporation in 1982 to obtain the mineral rights. Aware of the uniqueness of the Tionesta Area, the company voluntarily placed a 5-year moratorium on additional development, to allow the Government ample negotiation time.

The Forest Service finally obtained the mineral rights with the assistance of the Western Pennsylvania Nature Conservancy, a nonprofit organization that conserves unique biological areas through purchase. In 1987, the Conservancy purchased the mineral rights and promptly sold them to the U.S. Government, safeguarding this treasured remnant of the original eastern forests.

Publications

Region 6

LaLande, Jeffrey. "A Wilderness Journey, with Judge John Waldo, Oregon's First Preservationist." *Oregon Historical Quarterly* (Summer 1989).

Abstract: Judge John B. Waldo, Oregon jurist and preservationist during the late 19th century, was heavily involved in State efforts to encourage the formation of a "Cascade Range Forest Reserve" (which, when created in 1893, extended from the Columbia River almost the entire length of the Oregon Cascade Range to the California border and which today encompasses six National Forests). Waldo, whose concept of forest reserve status was similar to today's wilderness designation, traveled the full length of the Cascades from northern Oregon to Mt. Shasta in 1888 to prepare for his lobbying campaign. Using Waldo's journal-like letters, the article follows Waldo's route that summer a century ago, and it discusses the judge's place as an important local figure in the early wilderness preservation movement.

The article was written by forest historian Jeff LaLande as part of the Rogue River National Forest's participation in the 25th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Jeff LaLande also prepared a brochure for the Recreation Strategy on "the Siskiyou Loop"—a self-guided automobile tour that was published by the Rogue River National Forest. The brochure includes numerous historical sites with explanatory commentary.

Symposium Proceedings

Tools to Manage the Past: Research Priorities for Cultural Resources Management in the Southwest. Symposium Proceedings. May 2–6, 1988. Grand Canyon, Arizona. Editors: J.A. Tainter, Cibola National Forest, and R.H. Hamre, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. USDA Forest Service. General Technical Report RM-164. 1988. Contact the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Ft. Collins, Colorado 80526 (Tel: (303) 498-1719) for information on obtaining copies.

BLM History

Opportunity and Challenge: The Story of BLM. This five-chapter work on the history of the Bureau of Land Management (Department of the Interior) was a collaborative effort and features short inserts within each chapter on a variety of topics and personages. The editors are James Muhn and Hanson R. Stuart, with design by Peter Doran. The work was published in 1988 and is available in paperback from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20492.

Southern Research

Miscellaneous Publication No. 1462 of the Forest Service was published in March 1989 and is "A History of Forestry Research in the Southern United States" by H.R. Josephson, former director of the Division of Forest Economics and Marketing Research.

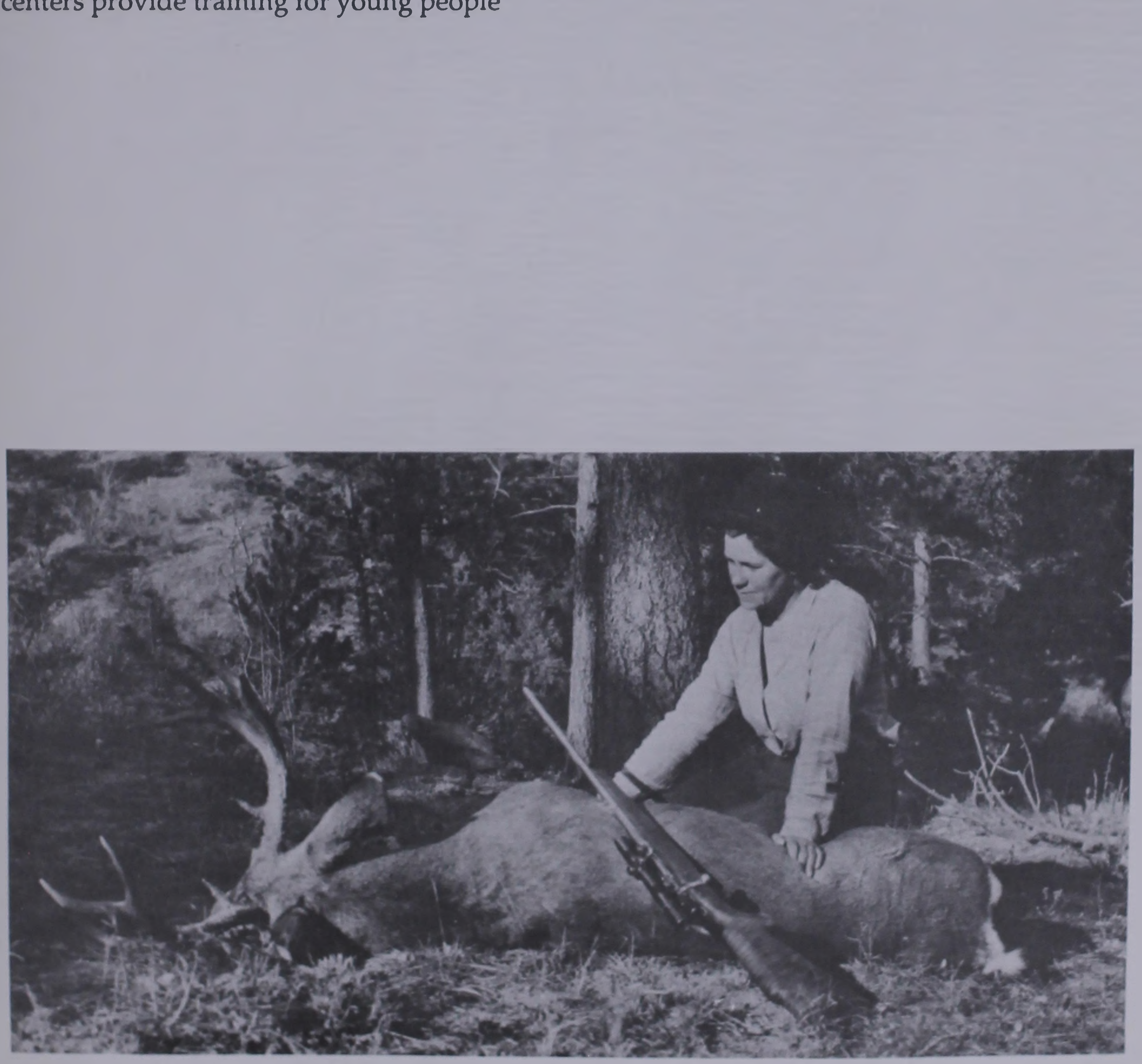
Pacific Northwest Conference

An international conference on circum-Pacific prehistory will be held in Seattle, Washington, August 2–6, 1989. The theme is "Bringing a Million Years of Pacific Human Heritage to Washington." Over 200 archaeologists, physical anthropologists, linguists, cultural anthropologists, historians, and geneticists from around the Pacific will present papers on their latest discoveries.

The conference is being sponsored by Washington State University, the City of Seattle, and the Washington State 1989 Centennial Committee. Exhibitors and attendees are invited. For more information, write: Circum-Pacific Prehistory Conference, Dr. Dale R. Croes, Conference Coordinator, 1001 4th Avenue Plaza, Seattle, WA 98154-1001; Tel: (206) 464-6580.

Job Corps 25th Anniversary

A national Job Corps center directors meeting was held May 8–12, 1989, at Green Bay, Wisconsin, to mark the 25th anniversary of the founding of the program. Eighteen of the nation's centers are managed by the Forest Service under an arrangement with the Department of Labor. The centers provide training for young people ages 16 to 22, who voluntarily enroll to obtain needed educational, vocational, and social skills required to function in the American workforce. Throughout the year, there will be regional and national events to call attention to the program and its 25th anniversary.



She got her buck! A successful hunter on the Roosevelt (now Arapaho–Roosevelt) National Forest in Colorado. (Photograph, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, October 1950.)

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